Focus Area 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Objective 16-2a targets the reduction in deaths among children aged 1-4 years to a rate of 18.6 per 100,000 population.

A total of 572 deaths among children aged 1-4 were reported in 2000, at a rate of 28.7 per 100,000 population based on data extracted from the Death Statistical Master File (Figure 16-2a, Table 16-2a). For 2001, a total of 537 deaths were reported for children aged 1-4 at a rate of 27.4 per 100,000, for 2002 a total of 526 deaths at a rate of 26.6 per 100,000, and for 2003 a total of 558 deaths at a rate of 27.8 per 100,000. California's death rates for children aged 1-4 remained significantly higher than the target established in HP2010.

Data by race-ethnicity show that the highest reliable death rates among children aged 1-4 were for African Americans/Blacks (44.6 per 100,000 population in 2000, 52.5 in 2001, 38.0 in 2002, and 52.1 in 2003). These rates were significantly higher than the child death rates for all other racial and ethnic populations, and significantly higher than the HP2010 target. Child death rates among children aged 1-4 for Hispanics/Latinos (29.0 per 100,000 in 2000, 25.0 in 2001, 26.9 in 2002, and 29.7 in 2003), Whites (26.2 per 100,000 in 2000, 27.9 in 2001, 25.9 in 2002, and 24.5 in 2003), and Asians (29.9 per 100,000 in 2000, 24.5 in 2001, 25.8 in 2002, and 20.3 in 2003) were also significantly higher than the HP2010 target of 18.6 per 100,000.   Unreliable death rates due to a small number of events were found for American Indian/Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, and "Multirace" children aged 1-4 years, and are not reported here.

Examined by gender, death rates for males aged 1-4 (33.3 per 100,00 in 2000, 31.9 in 2001, 30.7 in 2002, and 31.4 in 2003) were significantly higher than those for females aged 1-4 (24.1 per 100,000 in 2000, 22.7 in 2001, 22.4 in 2002, and 24.0 in 2003). This HP2010 objective is not being achieved for either gender as of 2003.

For more information on child deaths in California, visit the Maternal and Child Health Branch Web site at:

http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 16-2a please visit:

http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm#_Toc494699661

and

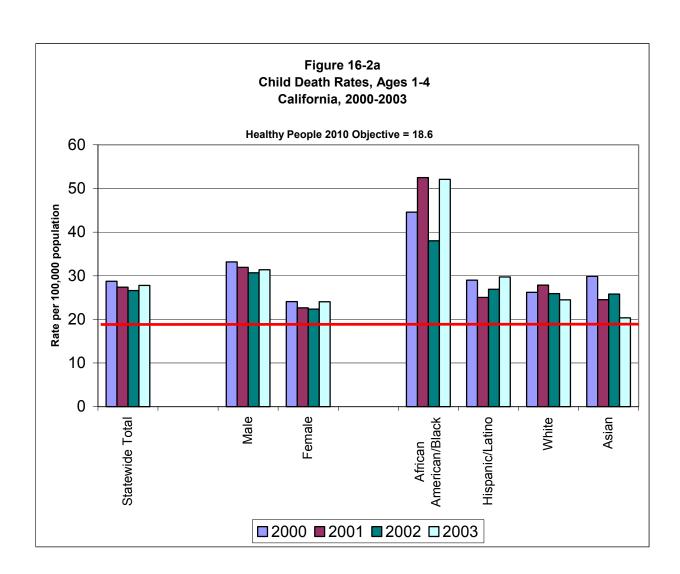**http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od16.htm#fetaldeaths**

Figure 16-2a
Child Death Rates, Ages 1-4
California, 2000-2003

Healthy People 2010 Objective = 18.6

Table 16-2a
Child Deaths and Death Rates, Ages 1-4
California, 2000-2003

Child Death Rates, Ages 1-4*	2000				2001			
	N	Rate[1]	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	N	Rate[1]	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Objective 16-2a		**18.6**				**18.6**		
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	572	28.7	26.4	31.1	537	27.4	25.1	29.7
Race-Ethnicity								
African American/Black	59	44.6	33.2	55.9	68	52.5	40.0	65.0
American Indian/Alaska Native	4	DSU	------	------	3	DSU	------	------
Asian	53	29.9	21.8	37.9	43	24.5	17.2	31.9
Pacific Islander	4	DSU	------	------	1	DSU	------	------
Hispanic/Latino	275	29.0	25.6	32.4	235	25.0	21.8	28.2
White	169	26.2	22.3	30.2	174	27.9	23.7	32.0
Multirace	8	DSU	------	------	12	DSU	------	------
Sex								
Female	234	24.1	21.0	27.1	217	22.7	19.7	25.7
Male	338	33.2	29.6	36.7	320	31.9	28.4	35.4

Child Death Rates, Ages 1-4*	2002				2003			
	N	Rate[1]	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	N	Rate[1]	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Objective 16-2a		**18.6**				**18.6**		
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	526	26.6	24.3	28.9	558	27.8	25.5	30.1
Race-Ethnicity								
African American/Black	48	38.0	27.3	48.8	64	52.1	39.3	64.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	6	DSU	------	------	4	DSU	------	------
Asian	46	25.8	18.3	33.2	37	20.3	13.8	26.9
Pacific Islander	1	DSU	------	------	1	DSU	------	------
Hispanic/Latino	256	26.9	23.6	30.2	289	29.7	26.3	33.1
White	159	25.9	21.9	29.9	149	24.5	20.5	28.4
Multirace	10	DSU	------	------	14	DSU	------	------
Sex								
Female	216	22.4	19.4	25.3	236	24.0	21.0	27.1
Male	310	30.7	27.3	34.1	322	31.4	27.9	34.8

SOURCES: California Department of Health Services, Death Statistical Master Files, 2000-2003.

NOTES: * All causes of death.
[1] Rate per 100,000 population aged 1-4 years.
DSU Data Statistically Unreliable due to small number of events.